

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/059922 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 12/56**

Laurence [GB/GB]; 35 Old Foundry Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2AH (GB).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/005661

(22) International Filing Date:
30 December 2003 (30.12.2003)

(74) Agent: NASH, Roger, William; BT Group Legal, Intellectual Property Department, BT Centre, PP: C5A, 81 Newgate Street, London, EC1A 7AJ (GB).

(25) Filing Language: English

(81) Designated States (national): CA, US.

(26) Publication Language: English

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR).

(30) Priority Data:
0230330.3 31 December 2002 (31.12.2002) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY** [GB/GB]; 81 Newgate Street, London, EC1A 7AJ (GB).

Published:

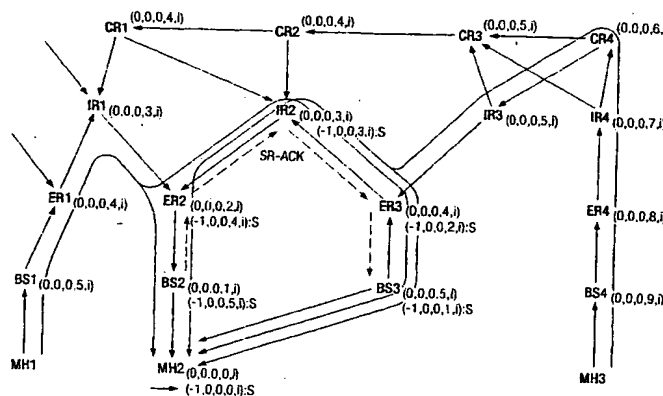
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **EARDLEY, Philip**.

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **COMMUNICATIONS ROUTING**



(57) **Abstract:** A method of routing packets in a packet network is disclosed. The packet network includes a chain of packet nodes, the chain comprising a first and second access node for communicating with one or more mobile nodes and one or more intermediate packet nodes providing a path interconnecting the first and second access nodes. Previous methods are inefficient and lead to additional overhead. The method comprises the steps of: installing, in said intermediate packet nodes, first routing data defining a first routing path in one direction along said chain to said mobile node via said first access node and second routing data defining a second routing path in the opposite direction along said chain to said mobile node via said second access node; operating each of said intermediate packet nodes to: determine, on receipt of a packet destined for said mobile node, whether said packet is from another node on said chain or not; and a) if the packet is determined to be from a node not on said chain, copying the packet and routing said copy along one of said routing paths and routing said packet along the other of said routing paths; and b) if the packet is determined to be from another node on said chain, route said packet along said chain only in the direction in which it is currently travelling.

WO 2004/059922 A2